

Greg & Janet Westlind Scholarship Endowment



Greg Westlind and Janet Armstrong Westlind met the first day of college at NDSU-Bottineau/St. Andrews School of Nursing and married in 1969 in Cando, North Dakota. They later moved to Santa Barbara, California, where Greg completed his bachelor of arts degree from Brooks Institute of Photography.

After Greg completed his degree, the couple moved back to North Dakota, where Greg worked for Olsen's Photography in Valley City. He later purchased the studio, renamed it GE Westlind Photography, and ran the studio with the help of Janet until 1983. During that same year, Greg finished his Masters Degree in Photography and was honored in Texas in the summer of 1984.

A life-altering event took place during 1983 when Greg's dad retired from the family farm. That led to Greg and Janet's decision to move ahead with the family tradition and become third-generation farmers. They moved back to Cando in the fall and opened GE Westlind Photography in their home where they continued the Westlind family legacy of farming. They ran the studio until their younger son, Reed, graduated from high school in 1999 when they sold their studio negative files and equipment to PJ Carlson Photography in Rock Lake.

Greg started North Central Wischek Disc Company in 1999 and turned that operation over to sons Travis and Reed, who renamed it T&R Sales in 2008. It is a short lines implementation dealership. Greg is currently a representative in the North Dakota Legislature. He has served many years on the Cando school board and the operation board for the Towner County Medical Center in Cando.

Janet is a registered nurse and retired in 2011 after a 45-year nursing career. She then worked as a consultant until November 2013 specializing as a nationally certified Resident Assessment Coordinator. Janet is currently involved with many volunteer organizations.

Greg and Janet have two sons. Travis is the older and is married to Natalie Simon. He is a graduate of UND, and they live at Hampden on the Simon farm. They have two sons, Garrett and Ian. Travis is a mechanical engineer and is currently farming. His wife Natalie works out of their home, keeping her job with Hayworth in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where they lived prior to moving back to North Dakota in 2005. Natalie has a master's degree in business. She has taught some LRSC online classes in the past.

Second son Reed graduated from Valley City State University with a business degree. He is now farming full-time. Reed lives in Cando with his wife Missy and their three children. Missy is a registered nurse and works at Towner County Medical Center in Cando. Travis and Reed, fourth-generation farmers, are now in partnership in Greg's farming operation.

Greg and Janet like to travel and have been to several countries on several continents. They are now snowbirds as well, wintering in Florida and Phoenix. As Greg and Janet reflected on the writing of this story, they realized, *"Without Lake Region State College and the foundation we know many relatives and friends who would not have been able to further their education. We're very enthusiastic and excited to promote LRSC."*

As a way to reward students who work hard and as an investment in the future of students who share the Westlind's North Dakota heritage, earnings from the Greg and Janet Westlind Scholarship Endowment will go to work supporting students enrolled in agriculture- or nursing-related programs at Lake Region State College. ❧

